

# Fiscal Flyer

CFMA-Issue 7

May 2005

## MAKING YOUR LUNCH RESERVATIONS

Your **lunch reservations** should be made using the Internet. Visit the CFMA luncheons web page (see link below) and click on the "Place Setting." You can register each month or sign up for all the lunches in one visit. Please register by 12 PM on the Wednesday before the lunch. If you need to cancel after you register, please email Dottie Relaford before noon on the Wednesday before the lunch. [dottie.relaford@state.co.us](mailto:dottie.relaford@state.co.us).  
<http://www.state.co.us/cfma/Luncheons/lunch.htm>



### May Luncheon

Place: Beef Palace – Serving Flank Steak and Chicken

Time: May 5, 2005 11:45am -1:30pm

Speaker: Mark Waggoner & Doug Ackerman, Senior VP's  
Kronke Sports Enterprises



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 President's Corner
- 2 Bean Counter's Underground Press
- 3 Member Benefit Info - Officers - Free Lunch - Bowl-a-thon



## President's Corner By *Roger A. Cusworth*

I would like to start off by thanking all the CFMA members that read and then responded to my challenge last month. There was a flurry of last minute registrations for the bowl-a-thon and annual award nominations.

We ended up with 14 teams for the bowl-a-thon that was held at Sierra Vista Lanes. Based on my walking around, it seems like everyone had a real good time. It is now time to get your money collected and turned into Cindy. A big thank you to Cindy and her committee for all of their hard work to pull this event off.

The awards committee had their hands full with the late flurry of nominations for each of the categories. The committee had some long discussions and were finally able to select a winner in each of the categories. Thank you for taking a moment to recognize your fellow employees, managers and accounting offices. The awards will be presented at the Spring Conference on Friday, May 20 during the luncheon.

Speaking of the Spring Conference, early registration has closed, but there is still time to get signed up. The cost is now \$95, but it is well worth the price of admission. The conference will again be held in Breckenridge at the Beaver Run Conference Center on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. If you want to come up on Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup>, many of our vendors will already be there and we will have a vendor night to give our vendors a little more exposure. We promise that each of you will find numerous beneficial sessions, not just from CFMA, but also from CIMA and CSMA. Be sure to contact Beaver Run Conference Center directly to make your room reservations.

Nominations for serving on the Board are due this month. As usual, the Board will put forth nominations, but any CFMA member is welcome to nominate other people. All nominations should be sent to Mindy Densmore. The nominations will be included in the June newsletter. The voting for next year's officers will take place at the June luncheon.

Finally, do not forget about lunch this month. Our guest speakers are from Kronke Sports Enterprises. You might remember last year we had a speaker from the Colorado Rockies and it was one of the best presentations we had all year.

As always, CFMA is here to serve you. Please contact any of the Board members with your comments, compliments, or concerns.

## The Bean Counter's Underground Press

By Alan Boisvert

Author's Note: *I would like to thank the Legislature and Governor for their continued support in increasing the state's contribution to healthcare coverage.*

Recently I went to the doctor for an arm injury. It seems I was doing some dumbbell curls when something popped in my arm and hurt for several days. The doctor diagnosed it as a torn bicep muscle from lifting too much weight. "You know Alan, when we get older we still remember how much weight we could lift when we were young, but when we lift that same amount when we are old, then parts of our aging bodies occasionally can't handle it," he said.

"When we are old? When did that happen?" I asked. He then told me that he had determined that I had a fatal disease called Chronic Aging Syndrome (CAS). "Doctor, how long do I have to live?" I asked. He pegged it as somewhere between this afternoon and 35 years from now. He also mentioned that CAS is not a pretty sight to see, and I should probably stop walking around the house in just my shorts.

All of this has made me very concerned about the State's switch to self-insurance and what's in it for me. I use to not care, but then I was young and wasn't aware that CAS could strike at any time. Oh sure, there were the little signs, my forehead growing taller, my hips getting wider, but heck, I figured it was because I was getting smarter from all that computer work. Now, I also find myself in the thick of a new social trend, called ABB (Aging Baby Boomers). Not only have I been diagnosed with CAS, my compatriots in the ABB group keep driving up the cost of health care. Higher health care costs mean either higher insurance premiums, or reduced services.

Fortunately the State has responded to this crisis by switching everything around so I won't really notice what's going on. I appreciate this. If you stay with the same thing year after year you begin to see trends developing. Trends tend to worry me because they tend to be exponential, and as an accountant I know that anything that grows exponentially can't, and it will someday stop growing and even contract. This is known as EGHE (Exponential Growth Has to End, not to be confused with Interfund Exempt Transfers from Higher Education to Lower Education).

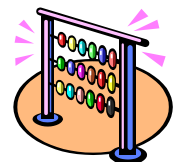
The State does a good job of using the aging body as a model for its insurance plans. It has Innies and Outies, keeping healthy, and the Preparation H plans. Historically, I've always opted for the plan with the lowest rate, but now that I have CAS and the ABBs pushing up health care costs, I've decided to go with the plan with the LEOMPC (Lowest Expected Out of My Pocket Cost). To get to the LEOMPC I have to take into account my medical utilization, income tax rates, premium rates,

I put all of these into a spreadsheet and out comes the answer, and the answer is ouch! This is going to hurt.

The other difficulty is in understanding that the Prep-H plan is called the high deductible plan, however, it has the lowest deductible of all the plans. I am told that this is a Federal requirement, and that should explain everything. Like why lowering taxes, increasing spending, and record setting deficits is fiscally conservative. It's a Federal thing. One symptom of having CAS is a total dislike of inflation. That comes from having a fixed income with a nice COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) attached. Inflation could just undo that whole wonderful dream. Inflation is a Federal thing too.

Health care goes up more than inflation because it adds technology and new drugs to the mix all the time. Plus it feeds on the weak (torn bicep), old (those with receding hairlines), sick (CAS), and mentally weak (according to my one teenager still left at home). Thus, I, like millions of aging baby boomers out there, am left with only two choices, flee to my native Canada, or outlive CAS long enough to get Medicare (which is the Canadian health care system limited to people over 65).

I've decided to stay and fight CAS. I will exercise, eat right, take yoga, avoid any meetings I can, take a walk whenever the network goes down, and try to outlive COFRS, EMPL, INO-40 CPPS, LAN, DOIT, or whatever other acronym that might just be around the corner. This I will do to hold down rising health care costs among the ABBs. Oops, have to go, just got an email over the LAN that the front office has a dozen Krispy Kreme donuts left over from our health enrollment meeting.



"The opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the Colorado Fiscal Managers Association, its Board, or its members."

### 2005 CFMA/CIMA/CSMA

Spring Educational Seminar

"Communication and Leadership – Bridging the Gap"

May 18 – 20, 2005

Beaver Run Conference Center, Breckenridge,  
CO

Registration is now available at

<http://www.state.co.us/cima/2005Spring/Spring2005.htm>.

Register early to receive a discount!

Lodging is not included in the registration fee, there is hotel information and a link to Beaver Run on the website. Please contact Beaver Run directly to reserve your room.

**Please be advised that Beaver Run does have a cancellation fee.** Make sure you understand their cancellation policy before you reserve a room.

**New this year** - The basic seminar begins on May 19 – there is an optional "CIMA University" or Higher Education Track available on Wednesday afternoon, May 18.



### 2005 Tim Smith Fund

#### Scholarship Bowl-A-Thon

Thank you to everyone who made the bowl-a-thon a success this year: the sponsors – coworkers, family, friends; the bowlers who shared their time on a Saturday; and to the Division of Wildlife, Colorado State Employees Credit Union, and several individual businesses that donated give-aways and door prizes for the event.

A final total of the dollars raised for the Tim Smith Scholarship Fund will not be known until all of the bowlers' pledge sheets and money have been submitted. **Pledge sheets and money are due to Cindy Howe by Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.** I am located at 1560 Broadway, Suite 1550 in The Denver Post building; phone: (303) 894-2971

#### MEMBER BENEFIT

CFMA will gladly email any fiscal job announcements to the CFMA membership. The announcements are limited to fiscal vacancies within the Colorado State agencies. Send your job announcement to any CFMA Board member. Please do not send any campaign announcements for board positions or notices of non-fiscal vacancies.



2003-2004

OFFICERS

President	Roger A. Cusworth
Vice President	Mindy Densmore
Secretary	Lavynia Washington
Treasurer	Mary Pearce

E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR THE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE  
CHAIRS CAN BE FOUND ON THE CFMA WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.STATE.CO.US/CFMA/HOME.HTM](http://www.state.co.us/cfma/home.htm)

*“Attend three CFMA luncheons this year and  
get the 4<sup>th</sup> lunch free!” – CFMA Board*

*CFMA’s very popular buy three get one free  
lunch program is in place for the upcoming  
year. If you attend all eight lunches this year,  
CFMA will pay for two of them. To assist in the  
record Keeping process, please register each  
month using the Web site registration and be  
sure to use the same name. For example,  
Roger Cusworth and Roger A Cusworth are  
treated as two people in the database used to  
track free lunches. You also need to be sure  
you check in each time you attend a luncheon.*

*In case you are wondering, your attendance  
from last year does not carry over to this year.*



*Genius may have its limitations, but stupidity is not thus handicapped.  
~ Elbert Hubbard (1856 - 1915)*